

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 SSM-03 IO-13 TRSE-00 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 SSC-01  
/087 W

-----029736 021413Z /42

R 020755Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9667  
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: NZ  
TAGS: PINT, IS  
SUBJECT: LIKUD CONSIDERING REQUIRING CABINET MEMBERS TO RESIGN THEIR  
KNESSET SEATS

1. LIKUD MK BADIAN AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HISTADRUT  
LIKUD FACTION (NACHMANI) TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE LIKUD  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE MET ON NOVEMBER 28 TO CONSIDER A  
PETITION DRAFTED BY YEDIDIA BE'ERI (LIBERAL) TO INTRO-  
DUCE THE SO-CALLED NORWEGIAN RULE, WHEREBY ALL CABINET  
MEMBERS WOULD BE ASKED TO RELINQUISH THEIR KNESSET SEATS  
WHILE THEY HOLD MINISTERIAL POSITIONS. IF ADOPTED, THE  
NEXT EIGHT LIKUD CANDIDATES WHO FAILED TO BE ELECTED IN  
MAY BECAUSE OF THEIR RANKING ON THE KNESSET LIST WOULD  
BECOME KNESSET MEMBERS. SHOULD CABINET MEMBERS RESIGN  
OR THE GOVERNMENT CHANGE, THE SEATS WOULD REVERT TO THE  
ORIGINAL INCUMBENTS.

2. AT THE MONDAY MEETING, A MAJORITY VOTED IN FAVOR,  
INCLUDING THE KNESSET FACTION. HOWEVER, MOST OF THE  
CABINET MEMBERS WERE OPPOSED. LIKUD WILL HAVE TO  
MAKE A FINAL DECISION BY DECEMBER 16. THE OUTCOME  
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WILL DEPEND PRINCIPALLY ON PRIME MINISTER BEGIN, WHO  
SO FAR HAS NOT INDICATED HIS OWN PREFERENCE. LIKUD  
KNESSET MEMBERS FEEL THAT THIS INNOVATION WOULD REDUCE  
THE PROBLEM OF ABSENTEEISM OF CABINET MEMBERS DURING  
CRUCIAL KNESSET DEBATES AND WOULD HELP IMPROVE THE  
MORALE OF PARTY MEMBERS.

3. BADIAN VENTURED THAT THE DMC MAY ALSO SUPPORT SUCH A MOVE. THE NRP ATTITUDE IS AS YET UNKNOWN, BUT IN THE PAST, THE NRP HAD ASKED SOME OF ITS CABINET MEMBERS TO YIELD THEIR KNESSET SEATS TO OTHERS. BADIAN EXPECTS THAT THE COALITION WILL SEEK APPROVAL OF THE WHOLE KNESSET FOR THIS RULE AND THAT LABOR WILL OPPOSE THE RULE, ALTHOUGH, AT LEAST IN THEORY, IT MIGHT REGAIN DAYAN'S SEAT IF THE RULE CHANGE IS ADOPTED FOR ALL CABINET MEMBERS. SO FAR LIKUD HAS NOT YET DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH ITS COALITION PARTNERS. HOWEVER, EVEN IF THE NORWEGIAN RULE IS NOT APPLIED TO THE ENTIRE CABINET (WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF THE DEPUTY PREMIER), LIKUD MAY APPLY IT TO ITS OWN CABINET MEMBERS.  
LEWIS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D770447-0825  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 90b2d70c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 373559  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LIKUD CONSIDERING REQUIRING CABINET MEMBERS TO RESIGN THEIR KNESSET SEATS  
**TAGS:** PINT, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/90b2d70c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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